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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/52/644/Add.2)*]

52/126. Protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/137 of 13 December 1996 and 51/227 of 3 April 1997, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/25 of 11 April 1997,[1]

Mindful that, owing to the growing number of assignments entrusted to the United Nations system by Member States, special attention for the safety and security of United Nations and other personnel acting under the authority of United Nations operations is required,

Gravely concerned at the recent increase in attacks and the use of force against United Nations and other personnel acting under the authority of United Nations operations, including murder, physical and psychological threats, hostage-taking, shooting at vehicles and aircraft, mine-laying, looting of assets and other hostile acts, and, in that context, welcoming the statement by the President of the Security Council on 12 March 1997 on the security of United Nations operations,[2]

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[2] S/PRST/1997/13; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1997*.

Guided by the relevant principles on protection contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[3] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[4] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[5]

Noting that since its adoption on 9 December 1994, only forty-three Member States have signed the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel and only fourteen have ratified it,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of United Nations personnel and their families[6] and of the developments indicated therein;

2. *Urges* all States:

(*a*) To respect and ensure respect for the human rights of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation and to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of those personnel, as well as the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

(*b*) To ensure the speedy release of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who have been arrested or detained in violation of their immunity, in accordance with the relevant above-mentioned conventions and applicable international humanitarian law;

3. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To consider becoming parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[5]

(*b*) To provide adequate and prompt information concerning the arrest or detention of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation;

(*c*) To grant the representative of the competent international organization immediate and unconditional access to such personnel;

(*d*) To allow independent medical teams to investigate the health of detained United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation and to afford them the necessary medical assistance;

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[3] Resolution 22 A (I).

[4] Resolution 179 (II).

[5] Resolution 49/59, annex.

[6] A/52/548.

(*e*) To allow representatives of the competent international organization concerned to attend hearings involving United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, provided that such attendance is consistent with domestic law;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation and to ensure, when those human rights, privileges and immunities are violated, that such personnel are restored to their organization and, where appropriate, to seek redress and compensation for the damage caused to them;

(*b*) To consider ways and means, until the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel has entered into force, to strengthen the protection of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, notably by seeking the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[3] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[4] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

(*c*) To take the necessary measures, falling within his responsibilities, to ensure that security matters are an integrated part of the planning for an operation and that such precautions extend to all United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation;

(*d*) To take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed and suitably trained so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions;

(*e*) To take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about the scope of that mandate and the standards, including those contained in relevant domestic and international law, they are required to meet;

(*f*) To make available to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fourth session the independent study that was requested at its fifty-third session on the safety and security problems faced by United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation;

(*g*) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a report on the situation of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who are imprisoned, missing or held in a country against their will, on cases that have been successfully settled and on the implementation of the measures referred to in the present resolution.

70th plenary meeting
12 December 1997